



# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release to the PM's OF THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 1947

### PLAN SERIES OF PUBLIC MEETINGS ON WATERFOWL PROBLEMS

Top officials of the Fish and Wildlife Service will hold a series of public conferences in 11 key cities from April 30 to June 2 for the purpose of discussing migratory waterfowl problems and hunting regulations with State officials, conservation agencies, and representatives of sportsmen's groups, according to an announcement made today by Albert M. Day, Service Director.

"The Service has long felt the need for more effective contacts with State officials and groups interested in the future of our migratory waterfowl so we have decided this year to try out a rather extensive experiment to answer this need," Mr. Day explained.

At these meetings, according to Mr. Day, Service officials will discuss the purposes of the waterfowl regulations "and present as clearly and honestly as possible the waterfowl situation on the North American continent today."

One of the main purposes of the meetings, Mr. Day emphasized, "is to give the States, organized conservation groups, and sportsmen a chance to submit any information, recommendations, or statements that they wish to offer." The Service Director made it clear, however, that the details of the hunting regulations for the 1947 season cannot be given until the Service's investigators learn the result of the spring hatch.

During the course of the meetings, Service officials in charge will present a constructive program of what might be done to alleviate the serious waterfowl

situation as it now exists. From the discussion on this subject they hope to develop a long-range plan for waterfowl conservation and management.

At the first three meetings, scheduled for Chicago, New York, and Washington, Director Fay will preside, assisted by other Service officials. Because of the pressure of other work, Mr. Day is assigning the remainder of the meetings to Dr. Clarence Cottam, Assistant Director, and W. E. Crouch, Chief, Division of Game Management.

The tentative schedule of meetings is as follows:

Chicago, Ill. -- April 30.

New York City --- May 6.

Washington, D. C. -- May 8.

Atlanta, Ga. -- May 10.

New Orleans, La. -- May 12.

San Antonio, Tex. -- May 14.

San Francisco, Calif. -- May 19.

Portland, Oreg. -- May 22.

Denver, Colo. -- May 27.

St. Louis, Mo. -- May 29.

St. Paul (or Minneapolis), Minn. -- June 2.

Exact dates and locations of the meetings will be announced as soon as detailed arrangements are completed.